

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

18. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein before hybridization, the target polynucleotide is amplified by the polymerase chain reaction.

19. (Original) An isolated polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,
- b) a naturally-occurring human polynucleotide sequence variant encoding an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, and
- c) a polynucleotide sequence complementary to a) or b).

I. 20. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting a target polynucleotide in a sample, said target [polynucleotide] polynucleotide having the sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 19, comprising hybridizing the sample with a probe comprising at least 60 contiguous nucleotides [comprising] of a sequence completely complementary to SEQ ID NO:2, and which probe specifically hybridizes to said target polynucleotide, under conditions whereby a hybridization complex is formed between said probe and said target polynucleotide, and detecting the presence or absence of said hybridization complex, and, optionally, if present, the amount thereof.